GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:500
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2005
HIGH COURT BENCH
Meghwal Shri Kailash;Rana Shri Kashi Ram

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted by the Government for setting up of High Court Bench in States;

(b) whether there is a long pending demand for increasing the number of benches of the High Courts in several States;

(c) if so, the details thereof; State-wise;

(d) whether the Government propose to take action regarding setting up of more benches for speedy disposal of cases; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI HANSRAJ BHARDWAJ)

(a) to (e): In its report, the Jaswant Singh Commission suggested the broad principles and criteria to be followed while deciding the question of expediency and desirability of establishment of a Bench of a High Court away from the principal seat and the factors to be kept in view in selecting the venue of the said Bench.

The question of opening a High Court Bench is considered by the Central Government in the light of these principles and criteria as and when a complete proposal is received from the State Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. No such proposal received from the State Government in consultation with the concerned Chief Justice of the High Court is pending.